

HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE CONDITIONS

Current Condition EFDC	Consultees' Suggestions	How Current Condition Would Change
<p>3 - <i>Window signs, as supplied by the Council, shall be displayed on each passenger window of the vehicle.</i></p>	<p>3 - <i>Facilities Manager</i></p> <p>The window signs, should they be in the rear windows only; the rear and passenger door window and in the case of 7 seaters in the rear 2 windows.</p>	<p>3 - Further window signs would be required at the back windows of 7 seater vehicles.</p>
<p>5 - <i>'A Hackney Carriage shall be required to display a roof sign capable of being illuminated, and showing to the front and rear the word "TAXI", the light for which can be extinguished when the vehicle is under hire. London style taxis with signs forming an integral part of the roof are exempt from the regulation.'</i></p>	<p>5 - <i>Epping Forest Taxi Association (EFTA)</i> Ambiguous wording – does not state anything about advertising on the roof signs; is this allowed?</p> <p>If it is allowed, what size should the advertisement be, and should the name of the office appear at the front or rear of the sign?</p> <p><i>Facilities Manager</i></p> <p>The roof signs "TAXI" it would appear that a majority of the roof signs only have TAXI on the front, as per the London taxis, on the rear they have the cab firm name or a telephone number. Is it fair to require the word "TAXI" on the rear as you would only flag a taxi from the front, also should there be a difference to the London taxis and others that are specifically built for taxis use i.e. Peugeot taxis.</p>	<p>5 -</p> <p>With regards to existing roof signs to allow them to remain unless they do not contain the word "Taxi"</p> <p>With regards to new licences issued to permit the word "Taxi" to be the only word at the front. To decide whether to permit the name and contact details of a company or driver to be on the front/rear of the sign for new vehicles being licensed.</p> <p>If so whether to restrict the size.</p>
<p>7(b) - <i>The centralised locking system should not be applied when carrying adult passengers.</i></p>	<p>7(b) - <i>Facilities Manager</i> Centralised locking on most new cars and people carrier comes on automatically when the vehicle reaches a pre-set</p>	<p>7(b) - To remove this requirement</p> <p>If adopted this would also apply to Private Hire Vehicle Conditions.</p>

	<p>speed, which is usually between 5 - 20 MPH. This does not comply with this clause. If there is a requirement for centralised door locking not to be applied then the drivers will have to check whether the system can be isolated.</p> <p><i>Mr Betteridge</i> Makes the same comment about the more modern cars and London type taxis.</p>	
<p>7(e) -</p> <p><i>'Be capable of carrying a wheelchair in a reasonable manner.'</i></p>	<p>7(e) -</p> <p><i>EFTA</i> Ambiguous wording - all new Hackney carriage vehicles need to be capable of carrying a wheelchair? Or must there be a boot in which the wheelchair can be stored once folded up?</p>	<p>7(e) -</p> <p>The word 'reasonable' should be interpreted having consideration to the type of vehicle. If it is a saloon car then the boot would must be big enough</p> <p>To decide that all new vehicles should be capable of having a wheelchair side loaded. If so, this should go out to consultation.</p>
<p>7 (f) -</p> <p><i>The vehicle shall have a minimum headroom of five feet.</i></p>	<p>7 (f) -</p> <p><i>Facilities Manager</i> The minimum headroom of 5 feet, this is the height from the floor of the car to the underside of the roof, this is to allow a wheel chair including its occupant to be wheeled into the taxi. This is probably only possible in a London taxi or a purpose built or converted vehicle to facilitate a wheel chair plus occupant. It may be worth removing this clause.</p>	<p>7 (f) -</p> <p>To remove this condition and receive a report at the next Licensing Committee regarding the introduction of taxis suitable for use by people with disabilities.</p> <p>This would apply to Private Hire Vehicle conditions if adopted.</p>

<p>7 (i) – <i>A serviceable spare tyre or run flat type of tyre, jacking equipment and wheel brace.</i></p>	<p>7 (i) – <i>Facilities Manager</i> Concern has been raised regarding the use of run flat tyres, allowing the use of these tyres allows the driver to continue using the tyre for longer than specified by the manufacturer, even to the point of doing long journeys. I may be preferable to specify space saver tyres, which also require travelling at a slower speed, but are safer than a run flat which only designed to get the vehicle to the nearest garage.</p>	<p>7 (i) – The words “run – flat be deleted from this condition This would apply to Private Hire Vehicle conditions if adopted.</p>
<p>Vehicle Inspections -</p>	<p>Vehicle Inspections - <i>Facilities Manager</i> Vehicle Inspections. It is suggested that when a vehicle is failed and then is returned for a retest the vehicle should only have travelled a minimal distance i.e. 100 miles, to and from a place of repair. There have been a number of vehicle returned for retest with up to 2000 miles. If the allowed distance is exceeded then a full retest is carried out with the appropriate fee. It may be appropriate that the MOT certificate is valid for the period of the Hackney Carriage or Private Hire interim inspection report.</p>	<p>Vehicle Inspections - A new condition is included to reflect the concerns raised. This would apply to Private Hire Vehicle conditions if adopted. This may be difficult for the proprietors to arrange</p>
<p>9 + 10 – 9 – <i>‘If the vehicle is less than five years old the proprietor of a Hackney Carriage vehicle shall submit the vehicle for mechanical and/or such other inspection</i></p>	<p>9 + 10 – <i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> Para 9 states less than 5 years old, para 10 states more than five years – what if your vehicle is 5 years?</p>	<p>9 + 10 – Change para 9 to <i>‘If the vehicle is less than five years old ...’.</i></p>

<p><i>six months after the date when the licence is issued at premises that are approved by the Council.'</i></p> <p>10 – <i>'If the vehicle is over five years old the driver of a Hackney Carriage vehicle shall submit the vehicle for mechanical and/or such other inspection every four months after the date that the licence was issued at premises that are approved by the Council.'</i></p>	<p>May be helpful to explain 'less than 5 years', or 60 months from date of first registration.</p>	<p>Change Para 10 to <i>'If the vehicle is five years old or over...'</i></p> <p>The same amendments should be made for the private hire vehicle licence.</p>
<p>16 –</p> <p><i>'A Non Halon Fire Extinguisher conforming to BS5423 shall be carried and be readily available for use.'</i></p> <p><i>First Aid Kit</i></p>	<p>16 –</p> <p><i>Essex Quality Partnership</i></p> <p>Essex County Fire & Rescue do not usually support the use of fire extinguishers – this should be checked as they will be able to advise on the most appropriate extinguisher (dry powder probably)</p> <p><i>Facilities Manager</i></p> <p>The requirement for a fire extinguisher or first aid kit has been removed from the London taxi on the ground of health and safety. There is a greater danger if the wrong fire extinguisher is used than evacuating the vehicle and waiting for the fire service.</p> <p><i>First Aid Kit</i></p> <p><i>Facilities Manager</i></p> <p>First aid kit used by unqualified people can lead to litigation.</p> <p><i>Loughton Town Council</i></p> <p>Members have recommended that there be a requirement to carry a first aid kit and for the drivers to complete a training course</p>	<p>16 –</p> <p>This requirement should be deleted.</p> <p>This would apply to Private Hire Vehicle conditions if adopted.</p> <p><i>First Aid Kit</i></p> <p>This could open the drivers up to potential litigation.</p>

<i>Tinted windows</i>	<i>Tinted windows</i> Quality Taxi Partnership Suggests that the Council includes a condition relating to tinted windows as follows: <i>'Tinted windows will not be permitted without the prior approval of the licensing authority.'</i>	<i>Tinted windows</i> Include this in the Hackney Carriage and private Hire Vehicle conditions for new vehicles being licenced.
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HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE CONDITIONS

<i>Current Condition EFDC</i>	<i>Consultees' Suggestions</i>	<i>How Current Condition Would Change</i>
8 - <i>Drivers Badges</i> A driver shall, at all times, display his badge so that it is clearly visible.	8 - <i>Mr. Betteridge</i> Mr Betteridge has noted that drivers are no longer required to wear their badges but to display them in the vehicle.	8 - This is the Council's standard condition both for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire.
21 - <i>'Any driver of a licensed vehicle which has been hired by or for a disabled person with their guide, hearing or prescribed assistance dog, or a person who wishes such a person to accompany him or her in the vehicle will have a duty to: -</i> <i>a. convey the disabled passenger's dog and allow it to remain with the passenger; and</i> <i>b. not make any additional charge for doing so.</i> <i>An assistance dog is defined by regulations as a dog</i>	21 - <i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> Suggests removal of the word 'yellow' in relation to the dogs' jackets as some assistance dogs such as hearing assistance dogs have jackets of a different colour i.e. dark.	21 - 21.1 A driver of a licensed vehicle is required to carry the following assistant dogs free of charge, unless the driver has a proven medical conditions that would preclude such actions: 21.1.1 guide dogs for the blind 21.1.2 hearing dogs 21.1.3 dogs for the disabled 21.1.4 support dogs (e.g. epilepsy) 21.2 All assistant dogs can

<p><i>which is trained by a specified charity i.e. "Dogs for the Disabled", "Support Dogs" or "Canine Partners for Independence", to assist a disabled person with physical impairment and which at the time that its owner hires a taxi is wearing a yellow jacket inscribed with the name of a charity.'</i></p>		<p>be identified usually by their harness or their identification coat.</p> <p>The same amendments should be made for the private hire vehicle driver's licence.</p>
<p>27 –</p> <p><i>'A driver shall not leave his Hackney Carriage unattended in a public place, the Police being authorised to tow it away under such circumstances.'</i></p>	<p>27 –</p> <p><i>Mr Betteridge</i></p> <p>This condition needs further explanation – taken literally it appears to mean that a taxi driver can only park his car on his own private driveway, and for the remaining time has to stay in his vehicle and not park in regulated spots on public roads within the parking regulations.</p> <p>Also, taken literally, this could mean that drivers cannot stop for coffee/toilet/lunch breaks.</p> <p>Police already have the right to tow a car if it is parked illegally.</p> <p>Perhaps provide taxi ranks at the other entrance to the station.</p>	<p>27 –</p> <p>The condition needs to be clarified as to what it actually means for drivers. It could be amended so prevent a driver parking the vehicle in an area where parking is not permitted.</p>
<p>30, 31 + 32 –</p> <p><i>'30. In the event that a Licence holder is charged or summoned for any alleged criminal offence, then he/she shall within seven days of being charged or on receipt of the summons (as the case may be) report the fact, in writing, to the Licensing authority, giving particulars of each alleged offence and in which court</i></p>	<p>30, 31 + 32 –</p> <p><i>MEMBERS</i></p> <p>Members have indicated that they would like the condition requiring a driver to notify the Council of any offences especially driving offences made clearer.</p>	<p>30, 31 + 32 –</p> <p>The new suggested changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers licence should meet these concerns.</p>

<p><i>the proceedings are pending.</i></p> <p>31. In the event that a licence holder is convicted of any criminal offence, or has an official caution administered, he/she shall within seven days of such conviction report such conviction in writing to the Council, and give particulars of each conviction and any penalty points imposed in respect of it. All driving offences shall be reported to the Council (this also includes a totting up of points.)</p> <p>32. Following any conviction or the issue of a fixed penalty notice which results in penalty points being endorsed on the Licence holder's DVLA driving licence, that Licence must be produced to the Council within seven working days of its return from the DVLA or a Court or a Fixed Penalty Office, following the endorsement of the offence thereon.'</p>		
<p>Additional -</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Additional -</p> <p><i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> No mention of carriage of wheelchair at no additional cost.</p>	<p>Additional -</p> <p>Add in a condition to the effect of the driver not charging any extra for the carriage of a wheelchair, and perhaps displaying a sign to this effect.</p>
<p><i>Trailers and Roof Boxes</i></p>	<p><i>Trailers and Roof Boxes</i> <i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i></p> <p><i>Suggest that the following clauses be added to the licence conditions.</i> <i>'A driver of a licensed hackney carriage vehicle will be permitted to tow a</i></p>	<p><i>Trailers and Roof Boxes</i></p> <p><i>If the committee accept this suggested addition to the licence conditions then the same addition would be required for a private hire driver's licence.</i></p>

	<p>trailer provided that: -</p> <p>the trailer complies will all legal requirement</p> <p>He/she holds the appropriate category on his/her DVLA driving licence, which must be produced to the Council.</p> <p>A driver of a licensed hackney carriage vehicle will not be permitted to carry any form of roof box or luggage on the roof of the vehicle.</p>	
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PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE CONDITIONS

<i>Current Condition EFDC</i>	<i>Consultees' Suggestions</i>	<i>How Current Condition Would Change</i>
<p>9 + 10 –</p> <p>9 – <i>'If the vehicle is less than five years old the proprietor of a Hackney Carriage vehicle shall submit the vehicle for mechanical and/or such other inspection six months after the date when the licence is issued at premises that are approved by the Council.'</i></p> <p>10 – <i>'If the vehicle is over five years old the driver of a Hackney Carriage vehicle shall submit the vehicle for mechanical and/or such other inspection every four months after the date that the licence was issued at premises that are approved by the Council.'</i></p>	<p>9 + 10 –</p> <p><i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> Para 9 states less than 5 years old, para 10 states more than five years – what if your vehicle is 5 years?</p> <p>May be helpful to explain 'less than 5 years', or 60 months from date of first registration.</p>	<p>9 + 10 –</p> <p>Change para 9 to <i>'If the vehicle is less than five years old ...'</i>.</p>

<p>16 –</p> <p><i>‘A Non Halon Fire Extinguisher conforming to BS5423 shall be carried and be readily available for use.’</i></p>	<p>16 –</p> <p><i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> Essex County Fire & Rescue do not usually support the use of fire extinguishers – this should be checked as they will be able to advise on the most appropriate extinguisher (dry powder probably).</p> <p>If the vehicle is fitted with a mechanical lift an additional fire extinguisher is normally required to be located by the lift and accessible from the road or pavement when the lift is in operation – this should be checked with Essex County Fire & Rescue.</p>	<p>16 –</p> <p>The type of extinguisher(s) should be altered depending on the advice received from Essex County Fire & Rescue.</p>
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PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE CONDITIONS

<i>Current Condition</i>	<i>Consultees' Suggestions</i>	<i>How Current Condition Would Change</i>
<p>21 –</p> <p><i>‘Any driver of a licensed vehicle which has been hired by or for a disabled person with their guide, hearing or prescribed assistance dog, or a person who wishes such a person to accompany him or her in the vehicle will have a duty to: -</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>c. convey the disabled passenger's dog and allow it to remain with the passenger; and</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>d. not make any additional charge for doing so.</i></p> <p><i>An assistance dog is defined</i></p>	<p>21 –</p> <p><i>Quality Taxi Partnership</i> Suggests removal of the word ‘yellow’ in relation to the dogs’ jackets as some assistance dogs such as hearing assistance dogs have jackets of a different colour i.e. dark.</p>	<p>21 –</p> <p>The same suggested amendment should be made as for the Hackney Carriage Driver’s licence.</p>

<p><i>by regulations as a dog which is trained by a specified charity i.e. "Dogs for the Disabled", "Support Dogs" or "Canine Partners for Independence", to assist a disabled person with physical impairment and which at the time that its owner hires a taxi is wearing a yellow jacket inscribed with the name of a charity.'</i></p>		
<p>27 – <i>A driver shall not leave his Private Hire Vehicle unattended in a public place, the Police being authorised to tow it away under such circumstances.</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Mr Betteridge-</i> This should be clarified</p>	<p>27 – Agreed. This should be amended so that drivers should not leave the vehicle in an area where parking is prohibited.</p>
<p>Additional – N/A</p>	<p>Additional – Quality Taxi Partnership No mention of carriage of wheelchair at no additional cost.</p>	<p>Additional – Add in a condition to the effect of the driver not charging any extra for the carriage of a wheelchair, and perhaps displaying a sign to this effect.</p>

PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE CONDITIONS

No alterations suggested.

OTHER ISSUES RAISED

<p><i>Fare Tariffs and meters</i></p> <p><i>Facilities Manager</i> Should a scale of tariffs be display and readable by passenger at all times</p> <p><i>EFTA</i> The EFTA have asked for meters to be installed.</p>	<p><i>Fare Tariffs</i></p> <p>If members wish to introduce a fare tariff or meters this should be the subject of consultation and a report with costings prepared for the next Licensing Committee.</p>
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<p><i>CRB Checks for Drivers</i></p> <p><i>Loughton Town Council</i></p> <p>The Town Council have asked fro Criminal Records Bureau checks to be made</p>	<p>These are carried out</p>
<p><i>Taxi Ranks</i></p> <p><i>EFTA</i></p> <p>Taxi ranks are a key issue</p> <p><i>Mr Betteridge</i></p> <p>Suggests a rank in Victoria Road</p>	<p>A separate report has been prepared,</p>
<p><i>Knowledge Test</i></p> <p><i>EFTA</i></p> <p>The knowledge test should be made more difficult.</p>	<p>The knowledge test is not routinely passed by applicants on the first occasion. The purpose it to improve the standard of drivers not to prevent applicants passing. However, all processes can be improved and Mr. Sanu has been invited to take the test and suggest relevant questions.</p>